Feb. 26, 1929. 1,703,157

M. LIMA ET AL.

SANITARY DISPLAY COVER

Filed March 19, 1927

Fig. 1

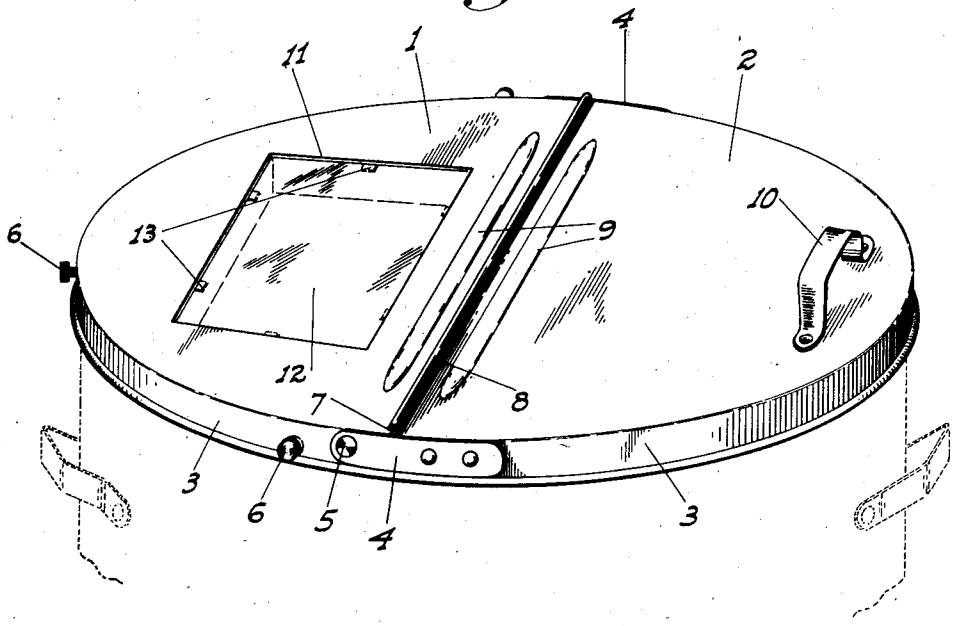
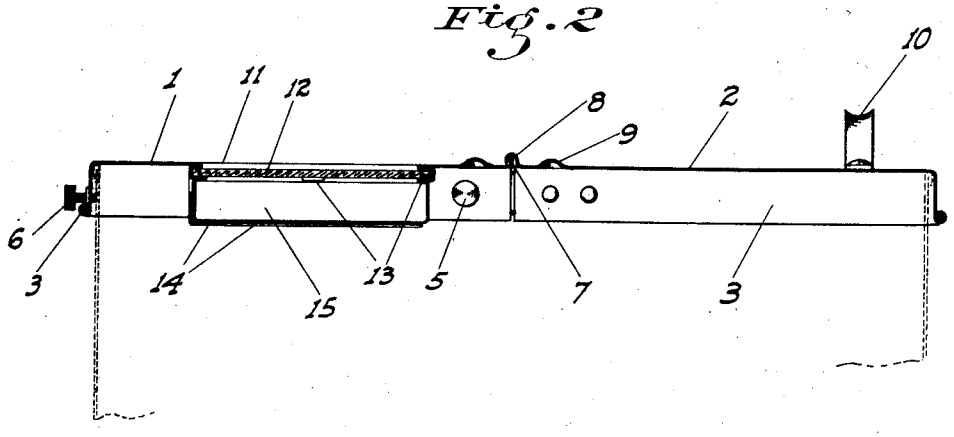


Fig. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SANITARY DISPLAY COVER.

Application filed March 19, 1927. Serial No. 176,644.

This invention relates to improvements in covers for boxes, kegs and other containers in which bulk food products and the like are kept and from which they are dispensed at retail after the containers are initially open.

At present such containers are either left open so that the customer can see the contents thereof and to permit the clerk to remove the contents,—which is of course extremely unsanitary; or else such containers are covered by a solid cover, sometimes of glass, which must usually be entirely removed before the contents can be dispensed. The latter arrangement, while sanitary to a certain extent is frequently awkward to operate and has a disadvantage from the standpoint of sales. This is because if the customer looking down into the container through the cover sees the container nearly empty he will very frequently fail to purchase any of the contents thereof owing to a feeling that the goods are stale. Further these covers are not fitted well onto the containers, but permit foreign matter to get into the same if the covers are not very carefully placed.

The principal object of our invention therefore is to provide a sanitary cover structure for containers of this character arranged to be detachably but rigidly mounted on the container as long as goods are being kept thereon and sold therefrom and constructed so as not to be easily disturbed, and so that no dirt or other foreign matter can enter the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cover structure for the purpose having means for enabling samples of the goods to be displayed adjacent the cover at all times in a perfectly sanitary manner and regardless of the actual quantity of goods in the container. The customer will therefore see the character of goods without raising the cover and without knowing whether the container itself is full or only partly so.

Further the goods thus displayed are close to his eye and can be arranged to present a neat and attractive appearance.

A further object of the invention is to produce a simple an inexpensive device and yet one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects we accomplish by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a persual of the following specification and claim.

In the drawings similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Fig. 1 is a perspective elevation of our improved cover.

Fig. 2 is a cross section of the same.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the cover structure comprises two main separable cover elements 1 and 2 of equal size, which for circular barrels or kegs together from a circular unit substantially the diameter of the top of the barrel. Both members have downwardly depending flanges 3 around their outer peripheries, to fit easily over the top of the container. Fixed onto the flange 3 of the member 2 adjacent the ends thereof are rigid straps 4 which overlap the adjacent ends of the flange 3 of the member 1 and are pivoted thereon a short distance from the ends as at 5. This arrangement, as will be evident, forms side hinge means between the cover members enabling the member 2 to be raised relative to the member 1. In order to removably secure the member 1 onto the container, so that it will not move when the member 2 is manipulated, set screws 6 are mounted in the corresponding flange 3 at intervals to engage the sides of the container. These screws also enable the cover structure to be maintained raised a short distance above the container if necessary in the event that the latter is heaped full.

The adjacent edges of the cover members for their full width are disconnected, and to prevent dust and the like from passing down between said edges, the edge of the member 1 is provided with an upstanding lip 7 throughout its extent, which is covered by an inverted trough member 8 formed along the adjacent edge of the member 2 as shown in Fig. 2. If desired transverse reinforcing ribs 9 may be formed in the cover members a short distance from and parallel to their adjacent edges. The cover member 2 is provided with a suitable handle 10 adjacent its outer end, so that it may be readily raised and lowered when desired.

Cut through the member 1 is an opening 11 of suitable area, which opening is covered from underneath by a pane 12 preferably of glass, which is maintained in place by brackets 13 bent to shape from the metal cut out

from the opening. Also formed from said metal and projecting below the pane a certain distance are guide and supporting flanges 14 for an open topped sample tray 15. This tray may be made of metal, glass or any other material suitable for the products to be displayed therein.

The flanges 14 are omitted along the edge of the opening nearest the inner edge of the cover, so that the tray can be slid out when necessary to insert or remove the samples.

Though we have shown and described our structure as being designed for round containers, it will be evident that said structure may be made in the same manner to fit rectangular or other shaped containers, without any changes as far as the operation and functioning of the device being necessary.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that we have produced such a device as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claim.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A sanitary cover structure comprising separate and cooperating cover sections, rim-flanges depending from the sections to extend about the top of a container to be covered, straps secured onto the flange of one section and overlapping the adjacent ends of the flange of the other sections, pivot means between said straps and last named flange, an upstanding lip along the transverse edge of the cover section opposite to the one from which the straps project and an inverted groove element upstanding from the transverse edge of the other section to overhang the lip.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

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